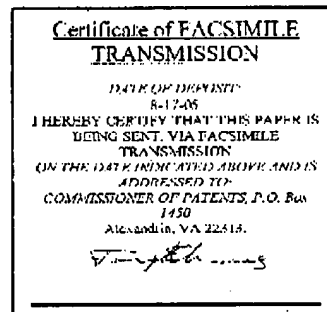


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AUG 17 2005

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re patent  
appln. of: Thomas, Paul Eugene  
  
Serial No.: 10/600,181  
  
Filed: 06/20/2003  
  
For: Acquisition Distribution Layer  
Having Void Volumes  
For an Absorbent Article  
  
Art Unit: 3761  
  
Examiner: Hand, Melanie Jo  
  
Atty Dkt.: 243US



Commissioner for Patents  
PO Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AND RESPONSE**

This amendment and response is being timely filed within the three-month statutory period for response set in the Office Action dated May 17, 2005.

Reconsideration and allowance of the application is respectfully solicited based on the remarks set forth herein.

**Listing of the Claims** begin on page 2 of this paper.

**Remarks** begin on page 10 of this paper.